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Abilene Weekly Reflector

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BURNED IN THE NIGHT

W. S. STAMBAUGH'S FINE RESIDENCE DESTROYED.

Afire in Some Mysterious Manner It Blazed So Quickly That the Family Escaped With Difficulty—Practically Nothing Is Saved.

The handsome residence of W. S. Stambaugh just west of the city was burned Sunday morning about 3 o'clock. The family was all at home and barely had time to escape. For several days the furnace had not been working well owing, it is supposed, to the flue being filled with soot. A grate fire had been laid in the sitting room on the first floor for morning. About 3 o'clock Mr. Stambaugh heard a fire cracking and supposing the grate fire had started went in some haste down stairs to inspect it. It was not disturbed and he then looked down cellar but found nothing wrong. Returning to the second floor he went to the attic door and opening it saw the entire roof afire. Waking the family a rapid exit was made. The two boys were wrapped in the clothing of their beds while Mr. and Mrs. Stambaugh and the servant girl made a toilet that was more notable for its speed than elegance.

A few neighbors were on hand by this time and the fire alarm had sounded downtown. Several small pieces of furniture and some of Mr. Stambaugh's clothes were rescued and then the roof crashed in and nothing more could be done. In the still night the building burned to the ground but none of the sheds or barn was hurt. The family went to the adjoining residence of G. G. Huffman and found shelter from the bitter cold. The firemen attempted no work as it was seen long before they arrived that it was useless.

The house was one of the two built in the University Heights during the boom. It was erected by Theo. Mosher and it was claimed that it cost \$7,000. It was admirably finished and complete in every particular, while Mr. Stambaugh had furnished it elaborately.

An effort was made to save the piano but it was unsuccessful. Many keepsakes and articles valued for their associations were lost, adding to the loss which may be measured in cash. The house was insured in the New Hampshire Fire Insurance Co. for \$2,000; in the Glen Falls for \$2,000 and the furniture, etc., in the Phoenix for \$1,000, a total of \$5,000. The family is residing for the present with F. M. Upshaw on North Buckeye.

The cause of the fire is supposed to have been burning soot from the chimney which fell on the shingles and smoldering for a time at last blazed. About two years ago the house caught fire in the attic from the flue but being in the daytime was extinguished before much damage was done.

High Art at Dillon.

Mrs. A. F. Snyder of Dillon gave a display of china last week which included over 200 pieces. The Republican says that each piece "was a work of art and would grace the table of a king." Two months were spent in preparation for the event.

Topeka Mail Hits.

Mr. J. Spratt lives near Solomon. We believe Mr. J. Spratt was one of the first persons to whom our attention was called in a literary way. Owing, we suppose, to the fact that some thing was out of kilter with his digestive arrangements, Mr. Spratt was unable to eat any fat.

Speaking about the good time coming when the lion and the lamb shall lie down together and the child shall play on the head of an asp, we notice that Rev. Wolf is gathering the stray sheep into the fold at Detroit.

The young man at Abilene who undertook to turn a horse around by pulling on his tail is getting better now, but the next time he will take the horse by the bridle.

Lee Maxey, the dehaired representative of the Kansas Mutual Insurance company, won \$75 from some of the Republican bloods of Salina by betting on the Pop state ticket.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

HIS HOME TO BE HERE.

Ed Little Will Still Reside in This City.

E. C. Little has been heartily congratulated by the Abilene folks on his appointment as private secretary to the governor. The state press has, too, been almost unanimous in commendation of the selection, a few Populist papers' snarls being the exception. The Emporia Gazette bids him farewell in two columns of advice closing with:

Watch out for those pretty Populist girls, Ed; they are really the best product of the party. They will steal you if you aren't careful. Probably if some good Populist girl had you now, she would tell you a few things that none of us, who stand here at the parting of the ways, can say. Perhaps she wouldn't let you go so suddenly. Women are mighty long headed that way.

Well goodbye Ed—take care of yourself.

Mr. Little will be in town this week and may run down to Topeka late in the week to look after some correspondence. He will be in Abilene a good deal of the time in any event and will practice law in "little old Abilene" whatever happens, retaining his residence and home here.

About That Napoleon Hair.

The Century magazine for December contains a short article from Abilene concerning the lock of Napoleon's hair possessed by Prof. Bagley. It closes with the remark that "it is probably the only bit of that which was mortal of the great emperor now on this continent." The editor, Richard Watson Gilder, adds this note:

Not the "only." The writer in his youth was present when was opened probably one of the lockets containing Napoleon's hair which were distributed by the emperor's direction at his death. A single hair was given to the writer; he tied a piece of silk thread about it and placed it for safe keeping in his watch; the watch was left with a watchmaker for repair. The next day he went back to the shop and asked if a small piece of thread had been found inside the watch. "Yes, I blew it out." "Then you blew out a piece of Napoleon Bonaparte," said the writer.

Where Nick Stands.

Judge M. B. Nicholson of Council Grove is in the race for United States senator, and he thinks his boom is in good shape. Asked how many candidates would be in the race he said: "Well, that puts me in mind of the old Scotchman who was asked how many orthodox members his church had and said: 'Weel, there's meeself and Sandy, and to tell the truth I have some doubts about Sandy.' There are two or three others besides myself, but I have some doubts about them."

Takes a Mail Route.

James Adams was today given the contract for carrying the mail from Abilene to Holland via Bonaccord. He will make the trip on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday and be prepared to carry articles and passengers also. When the Newbern creamery is completed two small stores will be started there and a postoffice located which will also come in his route.

Commissioner Koepke's Loss.

Herington Times: Walter, the 17 months old son of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Koepke, died Tuesday of this week and the funeral took place at the German church on Lyons creek Thursday. The little fellow had been sick with consumption of the bowels for the past five months and finally had to succumb to that dreadful disease. Mr. and Mrs. Koepke have the heartfelt sympathy of their friends in the untimely death of their little one.

Aged Over Four Score.

Mr. Janke, aged 81 years, died Saturday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Timm near Woodbine. Funeral services at Lyons today at the M. E. church.

PLENTY OF PATRIOTS.

More Dickinsonians Are Watching the Pie Counter.

The list of Dickinson county patriots is growing. A few more have come out of the woods since last week. It begins to look as though Nick Robson was right when he remarked: "If all our fellows get office who are after it there won't be enough left in the county to hold a caucus next fall, let alone electing anybody."

C. S. Crawford and R. N. Smith are said to be looking with longing eyes toward an assistant supreme court reportership. C. J. Lamb of Enterprise wants to be railroad commissioner. W. T. Hopkins of Herington is after Dave Nall's job as deputy warden. W. A. Redding is willing to let the millennial go a spell and serve on the state board of charities. W. L. Nixon want to be state grain inspector. J. A. Heist is after a penitentiary guardship. C. B. Troxel, R. H. Seeds and J. W. Miller expect places in the appellate court and there is a long and promising string of dark horses. We hope the boys will all make their goal. The more the merrier. The pie counter is open—fall in.

Some More Statements.

More election expense statements have been filed. It cost S. S. Smith \$55.60; G. H. Smith \$122; F. M. Dahlstrom \$190 to run for office.

No Selection Made.

The Methodist board of trustees held a session Monday a. m. presided over by Elder W. H. Underwood, to take action Rev. Tarbill's resignation and his successor. No successor was selected and it is probably that supplies will be sent for the pulpit from week to week for the present.

Dinner and Dancing.

Last Saturday evening a party of young people enjoyed Mrs. C. S. Crawford's hospitality at her home on West Third street. Mrs. Crawford entertained for Miss Strother and her friends, Miss Hinton and Miss Eby of Wichita. The hostess served an elegant dinner and caused the evening to pass very pleasantly for her guests. On their way home the young people stopped at the Olympic club's hall for a short dance.

Death in Buckeye.

Mrs. Jacob Hershey died Sunday at 4:30 p. m. at home Elias of Keady, her son-in-law, in Buckeye township. She was very old and infirm and death came as a result of pneumonia. She had been sick about two weeks. Her children are Mrs. Elias Keady, Mrs. Adam Fry and Miss Eliza Hershey, all residents of Buckeye. Funeral services will be held Tuesday at 10 a. m. at the house and 10:30 a. m. at Zion River Brethren church. Interment at Livingston cemetery.

Can Marry His Aunt.

The query addressed to the attorney general by Judge Hutchison as to whether or not a man may marry the widow of his deceased uncle, that is an aunt by marriage but not by blood, has been answered in the affirmative by Attorney General Dawes who says the terms "aunt" and "uncle" in the law mean only blood relations.

The couple, H. B. McCune and Sallie McCune, living northwest, received their license Friday afternoon.

Southwest Teachers' Meeting.

Following is the program for Dec. 12th in the Pearl district, No. 116, Miss Mary Pett, teacher:
Roll call—Quotations.
Report of Clay Center Meeting.
County Superintendent
Grace Harris
Recitation
The Future for Teachers.
L. H. Whahard
Music.

DINNER.

MUSIC.
Class Drill in Geography.
Story of Human Progress, pages 124-180.
Recitation.
Psychology, pages 95-140.
Current Events.
Holiday Expectations.
Mary Pett
Carrie Matson
Iola Collins
D. E. Conner
Naudie Greenman
All present